



# Rocky Mountain Newsletter



2004-3

Denver, Colorado

July, 2004

## Dave Lauriski

Assistant Secretary of Labor for Mine  
Safety & Health  
"Safety Professional Award"



Left to right are: Thomas Novak, Virginia Tech. Mining Engineering professor and department chair, Kim McCarter, University of Utah Mining Engineering professor and department chair; Dave Lauriski; Mike Dmitrich, Utah State Senate minority leader; and Randy Tatton, ISMSP immediate past president.

Dave D. Lauriski, assistant secretary of labor for Mine Safety and Health, was honored with the "Safety Professional Award" by the Annual Institute on Mining Health, Safety and Research. The conference was held the week of May 23<sup>rd</sup> in Salt Lake City, Utah. Mr. Lauriski also gave a speech titled "Institutionalizing a Culture of Prevention" at the conference. The conference is an annual event held at different locations nationwide. It attracts hundreds of mining professionals from all regions of the United States.

## MSHA Safety Slogan of the Month June 2004

"Safety isn't just your job--but a life style."

## Benny Lara

Mesa Field Office Supervisor  
Arizona Rock Products Association  
"Safety Committee Member of the Year"



On May 21, 2004, Benny Lara, Mesa field office supervisor was presented with a plaque from the Arizona Rock Product Association, acknowledging him as the "Safety Committee Member of the Year".

## Small Mines Office Selections

Arvel Hansen-Boulder City, NV  
Ed Edwards-Rapid City, SD

Arvel Hansen, Denver, Colorado, and Ed Edwards, Rapid City, South Dakota, were recently selected as specialists with the newly formed Small Mine Office division. The Small Mine Office will address the specialized needs of the nearly 6,500 small mines around the country. MSHA defines small mines as any surface or underground operation with five or fewer employees. Arvel will be stationed in Boulder City, Nevada, and Ed will still be located in Rapid City, South Dakota.

*Congratulations Arvel and Ed!!!*

Joseph A. Holmes Association  
Buckle-Up Program Award  
Dustin A. Erickson  
Wharf Resources Mine



Pictured, from left to right: Joseph Steichen, Dustin Erickson, George Nadzadi

On June 6, 2004, Dustin Erickson, truck driver at the Wharf Resources Mine, located in Lead, South Dakota, was recognized by the Joseph A. Holmes Association Buckle-Up Program.

Joseph Steichen, MNM Rapid City's field office supervisor, assisted by George Nadzadi, EFS/West training specialist, presented Dustin with the Certificate of Recognition. The event occurred on October 30, 2003, when Dustin was operating a haul truck in the pit. A rapidly moving snow storm developed. In a matter of minutes, the haul roads became snow packed and slippery. Dustin was traveling down a ramp with a full load of material when the haul truck began to slide. He brought the vehicle to a stop. The truck was blocking the road, so he decided to proceed to the bottom of the ramp. As he started down the ramp, the truck slid to the side of the road and into the berm, where it rolled onto its side. Dustin sustained no injuries because he remembered his Safety Training and stayed in the truck with his seat belt secure.

**Seat Belts Do Save Lives!**

**SAFETY & HEALTH ARE VALUES!!!**

Congratulations Jerry Kissel!  
Field Office Supervisor  
Topeka, Kansas



Jerry is originally from Leadville, Colorado. He began his mining career in 1980 at the Climax Molybdenum mine near Leadville. Jerry's other mining experience between 1983 and 1996 includes working at three other hard rock mines in Colorado. In 1997 he went to work for ASARCO Corporation at the Mission Underground copper mine near Tucson, Arizona. In 2000 he worked for the Thyssen Mining and Construction Company at the Stillwater Platinum mine. Jerry began his career with MSHA in 2001 in the Mesa, Arizona field office.

Jerry enjoys hunting elk, playing golf, camping, and travel. Jerry and his wife Susan have two children, Chelsea (16) and Jesse (15).

***Congratulations Jerry!!!***

**2004 TRAM/National Mine  
Instructors Conference  
October 12-14, 2004**

***National Mine Health and Safety Academy  
Beaver, West Virginia***

**Contact Sharon Casto, Seminar Coordinator,  
by e-mail at [casto.sharon@dol.gov](mailto:casto.sharon@dol.gov) or by  
telephone at (303)256-3320**

### Miner Achieves Milestone Safety Record



Left to right are: Dan Rappana, president of the Great Plains Safety Council, Robert Weber and Richard Waldera, president Spencer Quarries Inc.

At the meeting of the Great Plains Safety council a safety award was presented to Mr. Robert Weber. Robert has worked for Spencer Quarries Inc., Spencer, South Dakota, for over 34 years without a lost time or reportable accident. Robert understands that safety is a value and promotes safety to all employees.

### MEET THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT STAFF

Sondra Tanner!!!



Sondra Tanner, mine safety & health technician for the District's Special Investigation Program, started her career with MSHA in April 2000. Sondra lives in Highlands Ranch, Colorado. Sondra enjoys gardening, traveling, old musicals, turn-of-the-century architecture, and spending time with family.

### *New MSHA Mine Inspector Hiring Procedures*

Starting in early June 2004, Inspector vacancies will be advertised individually. Applicants, including those previously on the Inspector register, must apply separately to individual vacancies as they are advertised. No permanent register will be maintained for Inspector positions. Each vacancy announcement will clearly state the duty location, thus allowing everyone to apply and be considered only for vacancies in locations they desire. Check the MSHA website for details and vacancies.

**MSHA- Helping you to work more Safely in the Mining Industry.**

### MSHA Compliance Assistance



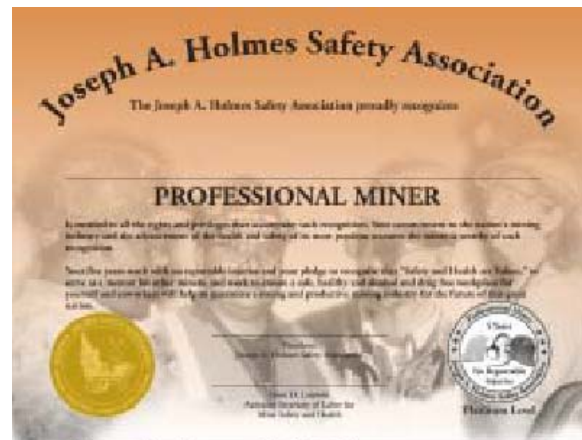
Dust and Noise Workshop  
Portland Cement Association

A Health Workshop was recently held in the Rocky Mountain District Office at the Ash Grove Cement plant in Leamington, Utah. The Portland Cement Association requested that MSHA provide training on the use of the Quest 200 dosimeters, SKC dust pumps, and MSHA sampling procedures.



The session was attended by 13 management officials representing various cement plants across the nation. The instructor was William B. McKinney from the MSHA Mine Academy. William was assisted by Dwayne Humphries, mine inspector from the Salt Lake City field office.

### **Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association Professional Miner Recognition**



#### **Professional Miner (Platinum Level)**

Miners with no reportable injuries over a five year period.

#### **Professional Miner (Gold Level)**

Miners with no reportable injuries over a three year period.

#### **Professional Miner (Silver Level)**

Miners with no lost time injuries over a three year period.

After the Association receives the application and pledge, a sticker, patch, certificate and other information will be sent to the miner. For those interested in applying contact the Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association Website:

<http://holmessafety.org> or call 202.693.9574

## **EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT**

***“Sidney Garay”***

Sidney began his mining career in 1983 at the Phelps Dodge Morenci Copper Mine, located in Morenci, Arizona. On August 10, 2002, he joined MSHA as an entry level compliance specialist for the Rocky Mountain District, in the Mesa, Arizona, field office.

On July, 30, 2003, Sidney received the Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association Certificate of Honor Life Saving Award, in recognition for rendering assistance to a fellow employee who suffered an accidental gunshot wound to his leg, while he was in the parking lot of the MSHA Mine Academy.

Sid gave a presentation on the Rocky Mountain District impoundments at the MSHA Impoundments Seminar at the Mine Academy on March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2004. He was also selected to participate on an MSHA Committee: Clarify and Upgrade Enforcement Regulations.

***Congratulations Sidney!!!***

### **HELP US KEEP OUR MAILING LIST CURRENT**

As address corrections or deletions become necessary, please let us know. Changes and/or deletions should be submitted by identifying the 5-digit identification number shown in the upper left-hand corner of your mailing label.

Additions, changes, deletions should be sent to:

Mine Safety & Health Adm.  
Dawn Trudeau: MSHA-M/NM  
P.O. Box 25367, DFC  
Denver, CO 80225-0367  
(303) 231-5465 fax: (303) 231-5468  
E-mail: [trudeau.dawn@dol.gov](mailto:trudeau.dawn@dol.gov)

***Yours in Safety,***

***Irvin Hooker,  
District Manager***

## 2004 Metal/Nonmetal National Mine Rescue Contest



**OCI of Wyoming, L.P.'s White Team are the  
2004 MNM National Mine Rescue Champions**

### **Team Members**

Rusty Owens (Captain)  
Mike Pond (Gas)  
Jay Volsey  
Chuck Jones  
Paul Larson  
Rob Hardman  
Dave Buller  
Willy Moore (Benchman)  
Gary Gomez (Team Trainer)  
Brad Slaughter (Official in Charge)

## **National Mine Rescue Contest Result**

### **(Team Field Results)**

<b>Place</b>	<b>Team</b>
<b>National Champion</b>	<b>OCI White</b>
<b>Second Place</b>	<b>WIPP Silver</b>
<b>Third Place</b>	<b>Morton Salt Co. Blue</b>
<b>Fourth Place</b>	<b>OCI Blue</b>
<b>Fifth Place</b>	<b>General Chem. Blue</b>
<b>Sixth Place</b>	<b>General Chem. Black</b>

### **(“Overall” Contest)**

<b>Place</b>	<b>Team</b>
<b>First Place</b>	<b>WIPP Silver</b>

### **(Benchman’s Contest Results)**

<b>Apparatus</b>	<b>National Champion</b>
<b>BG-4</b>	<b>Maclane Barton</b>
<b>BG-174</b>	<b>Garry Moore</b>
<b>BioPak</b>	<b>Rod Christensen</b>

### **(First Aid Contest)**

<b>National Champion</b>	<b>General Chem. Blue</b>
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### **(Multi-Gas Instrument)**

<b>National Champion</b>	<b>Rick Owens</b>
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## **Southwestern Wyoming Mutual Aid Association Mine Rescue Contest**

On May 4-6, 2004, the Southwestern Wyoming Mutual Aid Association hosted a mine rescue contest in Rock Springs, Wyoming. Eight mine rescue teams competed at the contest. The joint MNM/Coal mine rescue team also participated in the contest.

### **FIELD COMPETITION**



**MSHA INTERNATIONAL TEAM**



**1<sup>ST</sup> PLACE-GENERAL CHEMICAL BLUE**



**2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE-SOLVAY CHEMICALS BLUE**



3<sup>RD</sup> PLACE-GENERAL CHEMICAL BLACK



OCI BLUE



OCI WHITE



BARRICK GOLDSTRIKE



SOLVAY CHEMICALS SILVER

#### **TMX412 Multi-gas Instrument Results**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Alan Jones	FMC Corp.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Bill Mehle	OCI Blue
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Mike Pond	OCI White

#### **Dräger BG-4 Apparatus Results**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	Leslie Wareham	Gen. Chem.
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Scott Brown	Solvay
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	Dennis Hughes	OCI

#### **Bio-Marine Apparatus Results**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Rodney Christensen	Barrick Goldstrike
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#### **First-aid Competition Results**

1 <sup>st</sup> Place	FMC
2 <sup>nd</sup> Place	Barrick Goldstrike
3 <sup>rd</sup> Place	OCI Blue



FMC CORPORATION